



PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I am the applicant of:

Xiadong Mao

Application No.: 10/820,469

Filed: April 7, 2004

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO  
DETECT AND REMOVE AUDIO  
DISTURBANCES

)  
) Group Art Unit: 2644  
)  
) Examiner: Unassigned  
)  
) Atty. Docket No.: SONYP034  
)  
) Date: December 8, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 8, 2006.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Sylvia Castillo

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, (the copies of references which are not U.S. Patents have been attached) may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit these references in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to consider these references and to acknowledge such consideration by initialing the appropriate location on the attached PTO Form 1449.

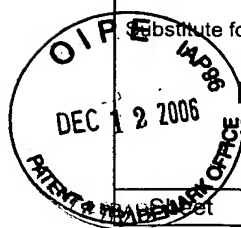
This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that this reference indeed constitute prior art.

This IDS is believed to be filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, it is believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this IDS. However, if it is determined that any fees are due, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-0805 (Order No. SONYP034)

Respectfully submitted,  
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/820,469
				Filing Date	April 7, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Mao
				Art Unit	2644
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SONYP034	

**U.S. Patent Documents**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	A	6,173,059 B1	01/2001	Huang et al.	
	B	US 2003/0160862 A1	08/2003	Charlier et al.	
	C	US 2004/0047464 A1	03/2004	Yu et al.	
	D	US 2004/0213419 A1	10/2004	Varma et al.	
	E	US 2005/0047611 A1	03/2005	Mao	
	F	5,335,011	08/1994	Addeo et al.	
	G				
	H				

**Foreign Patent Documents**

Examiner Initial	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document No.	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	I	EP 0 652 686 A1	05/10/95			<input type="checkbox"/>
	J	EP 1 489 586 A1	12/22/04			<input type="checkbox"/>
	K					<input type="checkbox"/>

**Non Patent Literature Documents**

Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published
	L	Wilson and Darrell, "Audio-Video Array Source Localization for Intelligent Environments", 2002, IEEE Dept. of Electrical Eng and Computer Science, Massachusetts Inst. of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139
	M	Fiala et al., "A Panoramic Video and Acoustic Beamforming Sensor for Videoconferencing", 2004 IEEE, Computational Video Group, National Research Council, Ottawa, CA K1A 0R6
	N	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.